



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Patent and Trademark Office

Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, D.C. 20231

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
-----------------	-------------	----------------------	---------------------

09/383,763 08/26/99 KUHN

R 9432-000079

┌

WM01/1003

HARNESS DICKEY & PIERCE PLC
P O BOX 828
BLOOMFIELD HILLS MI 48303

EXAMINER

ARMSTRONG, A	
ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER

2641
DATE MAILED:

10/03/01

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/383,763

Applicant(s)

KUHN ET AL.

Examiner

Angela A. Armstrong

Art Unit

2641

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 26 August 1999.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 3.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other:

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wise et al (US Patent No. 5,884,262) in view of Birdwell et al (US Patent No. 6,108,706).

3. Regarding claims 1-7, Wise et al teaches a computer network audio access and conversion system which implements

Network connection at Figure 2, element 15; col. 3, lines 51-61

Recognition of commands or search requests of subject words or phrases at col. 4, lines

13-16

Interpretation of recognized speech or voice commands at col. 6, lines 20-33

Submitting a search request via an Internet search engine to find information related to the subject word or phrase at col. 6, lines 40-51

Providing search results to the user at col. 6, lines 52-55

Providing synthetic speech output based on search results at col. 7, lines 37-41

Accessing predetermined Internet sites at col. 6, lines 40-41 and col. 7, lines 7-9

User profile at col. 8, line 67 – col. 9, line 12

Predefined vocabulary at col.2, lines 50-57.

Although Wise et al provide various examples of possible Internet sites or information requested by the user (weather, traffic information, or sports information), they do not provide an example of program guides. Refer to Birdwell et al who teach a system of providing announcements of upcoming broadcast information, which implements user profiles and accessing Internet sites and based on the user profiles (created from user behavior patterns or user defined information) the system can filter information to select broadcast announcement information to provide to the user broadcast information of interest (Abstract; col. 1, line 51 – col. 2, line 28).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time of invention to apply the information access system of Wise et al to access and obtain broadcast information, as taught by Birdwell et al, for the purpose of obtaining user specified broadcast information in an audio format.

4. Regarding claim 8, Wise et al do not specifically teach storing a set of grammars that are downloaded through the network connection. However, it would have been obvious to store new grammars, for the purpose of expanding the system vocabulary and thereby increasing the searching capabilities of the system.

Conclusion

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Sarukkai et al (US Patent No. 5,819,220) teaches a computer system for user access to stored information on the World Wide Web via speech commands and recognition.

Hemphill et al, "Speech-Aware Multimedia", IEEE Multimedia, vol. 3(1), 1996, pages 74-78.

Arons, "Hyperspeech: Navigating in Speech-Only Hypermedia", Proc. 3rd Annual ACM Conference on Hypertext, 1991, pages 133-146.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Angela A. Armstrong whose telephone number is 703-308-6258. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday 7:30-5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, William R. Korzuch can be reached on 703-305-6137. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-308-6306 for regular communications and 703-308-6296 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-3900.

Angela Armstrong

AAA
September 28, 2001

William Korzuch
WILLIAM KORZUCH
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800